

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA DIVISION

APRIL PLOEGER,

Case No.

2:22-CV-02389-JHS

Plaintiff,

v.

TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY  
OF PENNSYLVANIA,

Defendants.

- - -

ZOOM DEPOSITION OF MARCUS RYAN MILLER

APRIL 7, 2025

- - -

Reported by:

Kim Simms Strnisa - Court Reporter

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1 No. 32. It reads "Penn's actions regarding  
2 or in response to the documents found at  
3 Bates D," and a long stream of numbers, "as  
4 well as Bates TLFPLTAP 2202."

5 Aside from not actually reading the  
6 long string of numbers, did I read that  
7 correctly?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Prior to today, did you discuss any  
10 specific documents related to your deposition?

11 A. Any -- did I discuss any documents  
12 related to the deposition, that's the  
13 question?

14 Q. Yes.

15 A. Yes. I just -- yeah. So --

16 MS. GREENSPAN: It's just a yes or  
17 no.

18 THE WITNESS: Yes.

19 BY MR. HARRIS:

20 Q. How much time did you spend preparing  
21 for your deposition?

22 A. I would say maybe six hours.

23 Q. And when did you do those six hours  
24 of preparation?

25 A. Prior to meeting with General Counsel

1       about their accommodation process, it doesn't  
2       necessarily mean that person has -- has any  
3       formal role in the determination of  
4       accommodations.

5           Q.     Do you know whether or not Hikaru  
6       Kozuma had a role in the determination or  
7       handling of April's accommodation request?

8           A.     Based on the documentation and the --  
9       that is available and the additional  
10      documentation that I was able to provide,  
11      Weingarten Center staff are the only staff  
12      members who are -- who coordinate and run --  
13      or, like, make determinations about  
14      accommodations relating to disability.

15          Q.     So you didn't call Susan because she  
16       didn't work there anymore, at Penn. You  
17       didn't call Kozuma because he didn't work in a  
18       specific office, even though you're here to  
19       testify about Penn's actions, not just your  
20       office's actions.

21                  Do I have that correct?

22                  MS. GREENSPAN:   Objection to your  
23       characterization.

24                  You may answer.

25                  THE WITNESS:   From this

1 documentation, I can see that Dr. Kozuma was  
2 included as a recipient of the message. My  
3 interpretation is that the message is  
4 addressed to Dr. Shapiro as a member of the  
5 Weingarten Center staff.

6 I don't see in the text or the email  
7 any reference to Dr. Kozuma. I can't tell  
8 from the emails from Dr. Shapiro if he was  
9 included on her messages.

10 So, as far as I can see, he's a  
11 staff member that the student included in  
12 their -- as a recipient, but didn't have any  
13 other kind of observable role in this  
14 communication.

15 BY MR. HARRIS:

16 Q. Do you know whether, as indicated  
17 at the bottom of this first paragraph of the  
18 email, Susan Shapiro or Hikaru Kozuma  
19 contacted the VP they report to?

20 A. Yeah, I mean, I see that the student  
21 wrote that information.

22 Susan Shapiro reported to Dr. Myrna  
23 Cohen, who's the executive director of the  
24 Weingarten Center. And it has a hierarchical  
25 structure, so we report to our -- that's what